

It is my distinct honor and privilege to thank and commend Major Maurice Dinnerman on his many accomplishments in serving the U.S. Army.●

#### VETERAN JAMES COSTA HONORED FOR SERVICE

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, today I pay a very deserved tribute to Veteran James Costa for his service in the U.S. Army. The courage and bravery shown in the face of battle exemplify the spirit of a true American hero.

James Costa entered the service in July of 1943 and fought in the Asiatic Pacific Theater where he was wounded in the line of duty by Japanese rifle fire while sweeping caves. His heroic service was concluded in January of 1946 at the conclusion of the war. The freedom Costa gave while defending his country is commendable and worthy of praise. It is doubtless that the sacrifices he made changed the outcome of the war and the future of the world.

Veteran Costa received many awards while serving in the Armed Forces including a Combat Infantry Badge, Purple Heart, Bronze Star, American Defense, American Campaign, Asiatic Pacific Campaign, World War II Victory Medal, Sharpshooter Badge with Rifle, and Good Conduct to name just a few. Although many years removed from service, Costa still remains active in the support of his fellow comrades as seen by his life membership in the Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and past Commander of Post 31 Penacook American Legion.

I commend Veteran James Costa on his selfless service in the United States Army and on his bravery during a Japanese attack in which he was wounded. America is indebted to you and your family. It is truly an honor to serve you in the U.S. Senate.●

#### VETERAN PHILIP J. PLOURDE RECEIVES HONORS

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to Philip J. Plourde, a veteran of the United States Armed Forces. His outstanding service is what has provided Americans with the freedom we now enjoy.

While serving in the U.S. Army, Mr. Plourde received a certificate of recognition for his service during the Cold War. His dedication to the freedom and protection of our nation deserves the praise of every person in the U.S. Giving of himself for the benefit of those he never met is only an indication of his exemplary character. It is seldom that we take the time to thank and honor those who serve us. Without the heroism and selflessness of Plourde and others like him Americans would be living very differently today. We live today because of his service then. The time is long past to individually honor this man.

I commend Mr. Philip J. Plourde on his many achievements in receiving

the Good Conduct Medal, Sharpshooter Badge with Carbine, and Marksman Badge with Rifle. Thank you Mr. Plourde, with heartfelt appreciation for your personal sacrifice in the U.S. Armed Services.

It is a great honor to represent you in the U.S. Senate.●

#### VETERAN JOSEPH EDWARD SCHULLERY RECEIVES HONORS

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, today I honor Staff Sergeant Joseph Edward Schullery for his bravery and sacrifice of his own life in the Pacific Theater. His offering of life is more than anyone can ask of another human being.

Making the ultimate sacrifice to die for his country Staff Sergeant Schullery is a man worthy of the greatest honor. Serving from October 6, 1941 to July 11, 1945, Staff Sergeant Schullery's sister will be receiving a certificate of Service, a copy of the American Battle Monuments, and a list of casualties on behalf of her fallen brother.

The outstanding conduct and character Staff Sergeant Schullery displayed is recognized with a Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one bronze service star, World War II Victory Medal, and Honorable Service Lapel Button. There is no doubt in my mind that Americans would be living a vastly different life had it not been for men like Staff Sergeant Schullery. The nation honors and thanks this man for making a positive impact on the lives of so many Americans. It is doubtless that the suffering he endured was purely for our gain.

It is my honor to have the privilege to commend and thank Staff Sergeant Joseph Schullery for his outstanding sacrifice on behalf of all Americans.●

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the outstanding successes of the recipients of the New Hampshire Excellence in Education Awards. This annual event, which began in 1994, recognizes the hard work of teachers from throughout the State.

This serves as one of the largest ceremonies acknowledging the positive difference these professionals are making in the lives of students. Praiseworthy public schools, programs, and educators are used as incentives for others. These individuals demonstrate their worthiness in six areas: curriculum, teaching/learning process, student achievement, community/parental involvement, leadership/decision-making, and climate.

Teachers with these qualities are exactly what is needed to guide our youth today. With the attitude and hard work brought to the table by

these individuals I am confident that they will provide the best education possible leading to a spectacular future for our children. It is an honor and privilege to serve these individuals in the United States Senate.

I commend the following recipients: Art Educator of the Year—Trina Wick-Patnaude; NH Business Education Association Achievement Award—Patricia Tucker; Middle School Principal of the Year—Linda Raines; Elementary School Principal of the Year—Kenneth Williams; Assistant Principal of the Year—Carol Mack; NH Teacher of the Year—Nancy B. Molver; NH Technology Education Association Teacher of the Year—Mark Romano; NH Technology Education Assoc. Program Excellence Award—Hudson Memorial School; NH Association of World Languages Teacher of Excellence Award—Peter L. Lallberte; NH School Nurse of the Year—Maureen Krustapentus; Treat Award—Katherine R. Morgan; Christa McAuliffe Sabbatical Award—Katherine R. Morgan; NH Education Media Association Service Award—Nancy J. Keane; Driver Education Teachers' Association Teacher of the Year—Thomas Allelo; NH School Psychologist of the Year—Barbara Cascadden; D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year—Ronald W. Ketchle; D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year—Howard J. Beaudry, Jr.; NH Assn. of School Administrators Outstanding Service Award—Mark R. Masterson; Superintendent of the Year—Darrell J. Lockwood; English Teacher of the Year—Mark Holding.

NH Environmental Teachers of the Year: Elementary Level—Constance Roberge; Secondary Level—Kathe Cusson; Informal Science Category—Sandra W. Martin.

Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics: Elementary Level—Catherine A. Stavenger; Secondary Level—Catherine Brownrigg Burns.

Presidential Award for Excellence in Science: Secondary Level—Diane B. Savage.

NH Council for the Social Studies: Elementary Level—Susan M. Frost; Secondary Level—Theodore R. Miller; NH School Counselor of the Year—Allan LaFleur; NH Assoc. for Supervision & Curriculum Development Award—Mary Elizabeth McNeil; NH School Board Association School Board Excellence Award—Laconia School Board; Special Education Administrator of the Year—Colleen Bovi; Distinguished Music Educator of the Year—Benjamin Greene; Distinguished Music Educator of the Year—Carole Blake; Educator of the Gifted Award—Francia Barksdale; Pat Keyes Technology Educator of the Year—Joshua Gajowski; NH Society for Technology in Education Impact Award—Daniel F. Hudkins; NH Elementary School of Excellence Award—Belmont Elementary School; NH Middle School of Excellence Award—Merrimack Valley Middle School; NH Secondary School of Excellence Award—Hillsboro-Deering High School.●